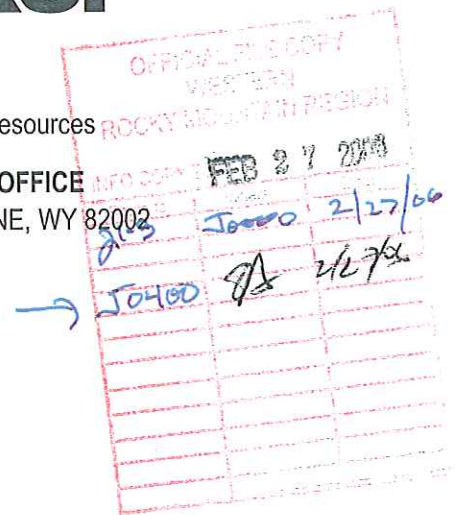


Appendix F. Concurrence Letters from the State Historic Preservation Officer

ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources

WYOMING STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
BARRETT BUILDING, 2301 CENTRAL AVE, CHEYENNE, WY 82002
(307) 777-7697



February 23, 2006

Joel K Bladow, Regional Manager
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 3700
Loveland, CO 80539-3003

Re: Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region (Western) Cheyenne-Miracle Mile 115-kV Transmission Line located in Carbon, Albany, and Laramie Counties, Wyoming. (SHPO File # 1202JKW004)

Dear Mr. Bladow:

Thank you for consulting with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the above referenced project. We have reviewed the project report and find the documentation meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716-42). After the reviewing the proposed project we would like to offer the following comments:

We concur with your finding that the following sites are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and will not be adversely affected by the project as planned:

Lincoln Highway (48AB152)	48CR8034
Union Pacific Railroad (48AB358)	48CR8036
Pioneer Canal (48AB835)	Denver to Fort Laramie Road (48LA2789)

We do not concur with your determination of eligibility for the Cheyenne Miracle-Mile Transmission Line (48AB1192, 48CR7262, 48LA1402) and recommend that it remain eligible for listing on the NRHP. However, it will not be adversely affected by the project as planned.

We concur that site 48CR8041 is currently unevaluated for NRHP eligibility and that testing will be needed prior to a determination of eligibility and project affect.

The following prehistoric sites have been recommended as either eligible or not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria D. However, subsurface testing will be needed at these locations prior to a determination of eligibility and project affect:

48AB1404	48CR8031	48CR8042
48AB1408	48CR8033	



Dave Freudenthal, Governor
Phil Noble, Director

The following historic sites have been recommended as either eligible or not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and/or Criteria D. However, determinations of eligibility under Criteria D require subsurface testing at these locations prior to a determination of eligibility and project affect:

48AB1395 (The Hill Homestead)
48AB1397 (The Stickney Homestead)
48AB1399 (The Herman Homestead)

We are unable to provide our comment regarding eligibility and project effect at the present time for the following sites and we recommend the following sites remain unevaluated pending further testing and/or information. An explanation of our concerns is listed below:

- The North Canal (48AB625): Your consultation letter notes that the North Canal segments are “not eligible for listing on the NRHP” yet the consultant believes that segments of the North Canal “appear to retain the qualities of integrity of location, design, setting, and feeling” and that the “segments investigated by Alpine do not appear to be contributing portions of the feature.” When documenting linear sites, terms such as “contributing” and “non-contributing” are used to reference segments of linear sites (National Historic Trails, roads, canals) that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This is a contradiction and needs to be accurately clarified.
- Site 48AB1394: This site has been documented as a “newly discovered site” according to the documentation provided in the report. During our review, SHPO staff was unable to find the Wyoming Cultural Properties Form that is required for our review of newly discovered sites. Additionally, according to the overview of site 48AB1394, as noted in the text of the report, the consultant has said this site is not eligible for listing on the NRHP. This is inconsistent with the consultant’s site number request that was provided to our Cultural Records office which cites that the consultant believes this site is eligible for listing on the NRHP. We request that the Wyoming Cultural Properties Form be submitted for our review.

Lastly, the remaining sites do not meet the criteria of eligibility for the NRHP and no further work or protective measures are necessary.

We will comment on site eligibilities and project affect on the aforementioned cultural resources when we have reviewed the requested documentation. Please refer to SHPO project #1202JKW004 on any future correspondence regarding this project. If you have any questions, please contact Richard L. Currit, Senior Archaeologists at 307-777-5497 or me at 307-777-6179.

Sincerely,



Matt Bennett
Historic Preservation Specialist, Sr.



Dave Freudenthal, Governor
Phil Noble, Director

**COLORADO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

The Colorado History Museum 1300 Broadway Denver, Colorado 80202-3187

August 25, 2005

Joel K. Bladow
Project Manager
Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 3700
Loveland, CO 80538-3003

Re: A Cultural Resource Inventory for the Western Area Power Administration
Cheyenne-Ault 118kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project, Laramie County, Wyoming
and Weld County, Colorado and the Snowy Range Substation, Albany County,
Wyoming. (CHS #48174)

Dear Mr. Bladow;

Thank you for your correspondence dated August 19, 2005 and received by our office on
August 22, 2005 regarding the above-mentioned project.

After review of the submitted information, we concur with the finding of not eligible for the
National Register of Historic Places for the resources listed below.

- 5WL2619
- 5WL4832
- 5WL2602
- 5WL4831
- 5WL2597
- 5WL2618
- 5WL2616
- 5WL2621
- 5WL4829

We concur with the finding of eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for the
resources listed below.

- 5WL1989.30
- 5WL4830

At this time, we do not concur with the finding of eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for resource 5WL2622. In our opinion, a finding of *needs data* is appropriate for this resource. We believe that additional research needs to be completed to determine what questions about marginal farming could be answered by the potential subsurface remains.

After review of the finding of effect, we do not concur with the finding of *no historic properties* affected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In our opinion, the project will result in a finding of *no adverse effect* under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Historic properties are located within the Area of Potential Effects and the management procedures for resource 5WL2622 have not been finalized.

If unidentified archaeological resources are discovered during construction, work must be interrupted until the resources have been evaluated in terms of the National Register criteria, 36 CFR 60.4, in consultation with this office.

We request being involved in the consultation process with the local government, which as stipulated in 36 CFR 800.3 is required to be notified of the undertaking, and with other consulting parties. Additional information provided by the local government or consulting parties might cause our office to re-evaluate our eligibility and potential effect findings.

Please note that our compliance letter does not end the 30-day review period provided to other consulting parties.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Amy Pallante, our Section 106 Compliance Coordinator, at (303) 866-4676.

Sincerely,

for 
Georgianne Contiguglia
State Historic Preservation Officer

CHS 45174
August 23, 2006

2

Jun 8 2006 11:24 P.07

CD HISTORICAL SOCIETY Fax:3038662711



Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 3700
Loveland, CO 80539-3009

44174 ASP
RECEIVED

AUG 22 2005

CHD/CAMP

AUG 19 2005

Ms. Georgianna Contiguglia
State Historic Preservation Officer
Colorado Historical Society
1300 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Contiguglia:

Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region (Western) is proposing to rebuild its Cheyenne-Ault 115-kV Transmission Line located in Laramie County, Wyoming and Weld County, Colorado and to construct a new substation in Albany County, Wyoming.

In consideration of the effect of the undertaking on cultural resources as per 36 CFR 800.5, a cultural resource survey of the area was conducted by Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. The survey entitled "A Cultural Resource Inventory for the Western Area Power Administration Cheyenne-Ault 115-kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project, Laramie County, Wyoming and Weld County, Colorado and the Snowy Range Substation, Albany County, Wyoming" is enclosed for your review. The survey identified 13 sites and one isolated find occurrence. The sites included five prehistoric archaeological sites and eight historic sites. Two sites are in Wyoming and 11 sites are in Colorado. The isolated find is located in Colorado. Twelve sites are located on private lands. Another site, the transmission line, crosses Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, but it is owned by Western.

Based on the cultural resource report and management recommendations, Western has determined that there are no historic properties affected. The submission of this documentation will fulfill Western's responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (NHPA).

L. Description of the Undertaking - Western is proposing to rebuild the aging Cheyenne-Ault 115-kV Transmission Line between Cheyenne, Wyoming and Ault, Colorado. The new line will be constructed at 230-kV. The transmission line is 35 miles in length and trends from north to south, beginning on the east side of Cheyenne and terminating at the Ault Substation in Ault, Colorado. The line crosses Laramie County in Wyoming mainly on privately held lands (six miles) but also crosses .1 mile of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Rawlins Field Office (RFO), and 1.5 miles of State of Wyoming/split with private lands. In Weld County, Colorado, the line crosses 21.5 miles of private lands and six miles of State of Colorado/split with private lands. The project also included six miles of associated access roads of which five are on private land and one is on State of Colorado land. In terms of area, the

survey covered 163.4 acres of private land in Wyoming, 18.2 acres of State of Wyoming land, 1.4 acres of BLM-RPO land, 634 acres of private land in Colorado, and 72.6 acres of State of Colorado land. Two locations were surveyed for the new substation. Both are on privately owned lands and total 46.7 acres for location A and 50.6 acres for location B.

The existing transmission line consists of wood-pole H-frame structures suspending standard copper conductors. In most cases, the existing wooden poles will be mechanically pulled from the ground. In instances where the existing poles cannot or should not be pulled, the poles will be cut off just below ground level. New structures will be either single pole steel, lattice steel or wooden H-frame. Portions of the new line will be a double circuit 230kV and 115kV. The new structures may not necessarily be placed in the same locations as the existing structures. Some minor access road maintenance may also be necessary. This could include road blading and graveling of small sections of existing access roads.

II. Methodology and Reporting - A Class I literature review was conducted between June 23, 2004, at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Laramie, Wyoming, and July 1, 2004, at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Denver, Colorado. Twenty-five previously documented sites lie within one-half mile of the transmission line and access roads. Site types included prehistoric camps, lithic scatters, historic habitations, roads, railroads, and ditches. Seven surveys had been conducted within one-half mile of the project. The majority of the surveys were related to energy and communication development.

In addition to a search of the state site files, historic maps from the General Land Office (GLO) were also inspected. The GLOs dated from 1868-1875.

An intensive field examination of the project area was also conducted. The survey corridor width for the Cheyenne-Ault line was 200 feet, 100 feet on either side of the line. This corridor was surveyed in 30 meter transects in Wyoming, and 15 meter transects in Colorado. Access road corridor width varied, based on land ownership. On public land, survey width was 100 feet, centered on the roadway, with survey transects of 15 meters on either side of the roadway. On private land, the survey corridor was restricted to 50 feet centered on the road, dictating transects of 7.5 meters. Roads crowned and ditched or paved were not surveyed. The two substation locations were surveyed in 30 m transects.

III. Resources Located, Identified, and Evaluated - The Class III survey of the project area resulted in the documentation of three new cultural resources, 10 site re-evaluations, and one isolated find. A summary of all sites is presented in Table 4 of the enclosed report. Sites described as "officially eligible" have been so designated by the Wyoming or Colorado SHPO. Sites described as "eligible" or "not eligible" reflect recommendations by the recorder. All sites are located on private lands.

Newly Recorded Sites

45WL4830: This site consists of nine tipi rings and two rock alignments that may be tipi rings. There is a potential for buried deposits both inside and outside the rings. The site is recommended as eligible under criteria d. The site will be avoided by the project. The closest

structure is 50 feet from one of the tipi rings. A temporary fence will be set up to insure avoidance of the site.

5WL4831: This site is the remains of a single tipi ring. Because the site is in an area of deflation, the site has low potential for subsurface remains. It is recommended as not eligible.

5WL4832: This site is an historic artifact scatter and habitation. The site is in a plowed field and has been extensively damaged by farming activities. Therefore, the site is recommended as not eligible.

Previously Recorded Sites

48LA1237: Denver-Pacific Railroad Grade. This is a one-mile segment of the abandoned railroad grade. It was previously determined officially eligible under criteria a. This site will not be affected.

5WL1969.34: Union Pacific Railroad. It was officially determined eligible in 1993 and this segment was officially determined to be contributing in 1998. It will not be affected by the project.

5WL2597: This site is a small lithic scatter comprised of six flakes. It was officially determined not eligible in 1998. Western concurs with this recommendation.

5WL2602: This is an historic habitation with an artifact scatter. The site was officially determined not eligible.

5WL2616: This is a small lithic scatter that was recommended not eligible in 1998. Western concurs with this recommendation.

5WL2618: This site consist of burned rock and four artifacts. The site was officially determined not eligible in 1998. Western concurs with this recommendation.

5WL2619: This site is an abandoned earthen ditch. It was officially determined not eligible in 1998. Western concurs with this recommendation.

5WL2621: This is a concentration of four stone piles. The site was officially determined not eligible in 1998. Western concurs with this recommendation.

5WL2622: is an historic habitation site consisting of stone piles, artifacts, and four structures. It was officially determined not eligible in 1998; however, at that time, it was only recorded as consisting of 10 stone piles. This re-visit of the site identified much more extensive features. The site represents a homestead from about 1908-1915. It is recommended the site is eligible under criteria d. Although a structure and access road are located within the site's boundary, all features will be avoided. Therefore, the values that make it eligible will not be affected.

48LA1443: Cheyenne-Ault 115-kV Transmission Line. The Cheyenne-Ault line has been documented by Associated Cultural Resource Experts (Schweigert 1998) as part of a region-wide study of Western facilities. The site, which is owned by Western, crosses private, State and Federal land. The site was recommended eligible, but has had no formal SHPO review. An in-use transmission line is one of the site types that the Wyoming SHPO has determined should not be recorded. The historic integrity of the transmission line is also in question, and numerous components have been replaced and upgraded over the years. Although Table 4 recommends the site as recommended eligible, Western's recommendation is that the transmission line be considered ineligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

IV. Effects Determination and Compliance Decision - Of the thirteen sites, two are officially eligible, two are recommended as eligible, five are officially not eligible, one was previously officially determined not eligible but is recommended as eligible, and three are recommended as not eligible. Effects determinations are the responsibility of the lead agency. Western has considered the nature of the undertaking and the presence of historic properties that may possess the qualities of integrity and meet at least one of the other criteria necessary to be considered for inclusion in the NRHP. Western has determined that there are no historic properties affected. Western considers that the stipulations of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and the implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800, have been satisfied.

Please provide comments on the report within 30 calendar days, as well as comments on eligibility and effect for sites located within your jurisdiction. Western will wait for your comments prior to consulting with the SHPO. If you have any questions about this project, please telephone Rodney Jones, Rocky Mountain Region Office, Loveland, Colorado, at (970) 461-7371 or Mary Barger, Corporate Services Office, at (720) 962-7253.

Sincerely,



Joel K. Bladow
Regional Manager

Enclosure

Schweigert, Kurt P.

1998 *Historical Evaluation, Western Area Power Administration Facilities, Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Utah.* Prepared for the Western Area Power Administration.

ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources

WYOMING STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Claudia Nissley

State Historic Preservation Officer

BARRETT BUILDING, 2301 CENTRAL AVE, CHEYENNE, WY 82002

(307) 777-7697

8/29/05
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August 23, 2005

Joel Bladow
Regional Manager
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
P. O. Box 3700
Loveland, CO 80539-3003

Re: Western Area Power Administration Cheyenne-Ault 115 kV Transmission Line
Rebuild Project (SHPO File # 0805AKY011)

Dear Mr. Bladow:

Thank you for consulting with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the above referenced project. We have reviewed the project report and find the documentation meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716-42). We concur with your finding that site 48LA1403, the Cheyenne-Ault Transmission Line, is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and will not be adversely affected by the project as planned. We also concur with your finding that the Denver-Pacific Railroad Grade (48LA1237) will not be adversely affected by the project as planned.

We recommend the Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration allow the project to proceed in accordance with state and federal laws subject to the following stipulation:

If any cultural materials are discovered during construction, work in the area shall halt immediately, the federal agency must be contacted, and the materials evaluated by an archaeologist or historian meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (48 FR 22716, Sept. 1983).

This letter should be retained in your files as documentation of a SHPO concurrence on your finding of no historic properties adversely affected. Please refer to SHPO project #0805AKY011 on any future correspondence regarding this project. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey York at 307-777-6357.



Dave Freudenthal, Governor
Phil Noble, Director